

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 18, 2010**

ATTENDANCE: David M. Campbell, First Selectman; David F. Bayne
Gerald Nielsen, Jayme J. Stevenson, Callie Sullivan

STAFF: Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

First Selectman Campbell stated that he attended "1776" and he encourages all to attend this historical musical show.

First Selectman Campbell stated that relative to sidewalks, he has had correspondence with New Canaan for spaces at the Tallmadge Hill train station, as they have no waiting list, and he will talk to the Parking Authority and advise the outcome.

First Selectman Campbell stated that he will be meeting with the Board of Finance and RTM about the facilities move and is reaching out to volunteers to serve on the Building Committee over the next few weeks.

He stated that relative to an article in the paper, Andrea Aldridge has resigned recently; and unfortunately her position was a victim of budget cuts that reduced the position to part time. He added that unfortunately having the most seniority is not always reflected in the fairness of budget cuts; and he stated that he is sorry to lose her and she will be missed.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilduff presented his written report and stated that following items have been proceeding as authorized:

- Weed Beach – He has met with the Recreation and Parks Commission to determine the specific action plan and next steps in moving along the project with the sequence of events with bidding process and documents to cover sub contractors.

- Police Department: Contractor documents have been forwarded to Atty. Fox for legal approval.
- Tree Commission – Report will be issued in November
- CT. Conference – Legislative Committee meeting will be next week and the challenge is who will take care of the state financial situation and alternative revenue systems within the state mandates.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Ms. Connie Melvin, 133 Stephen Mather Drive, stated that she represented the Darien Environmental Group and was here to speak against the Spring Clean Up Program. She stated that the practice of collecting junk to be taken to the dump as opposed to recycling, has been an on-going problem, creates an unsightly mess along the streets, air pollution from the collection trucks, and an inefficient use of fossil fuel. She stated that items should be recycled especially in view of the Swap Shop and the annual Boy Scout Tag Sale that have been very successful opportunities for recycling rather than costing the town manpower and dump charges. She added that it should be fee based rather than free pick up of trash, and money collected from pick up fees could be used for solar panel lighting and for a fluorescent tube collection program.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Discuss Change to Spring Clean-up Bulk Waste Collection

Mr. Campbell stated that he has met with DPW to come up with a solution or alternative to the program whether it should be appointment based, or a “free weekend” drop off time at the transfer station. Ms. Stevenson stated that she advocates a change to the program and agrees with Connie, and has always felt it was an unusual program, especially with young children who may be in danger waiting for buses along the trash build up. She added that also the fact that items such as sofas and mattresses get ruined after the first rain. She added that she is cognizant of seniors and those who are unable to bring things to the transfer station that fees should be waived.

Mr. Nielsen stated that he is in agreement with the above comments, and views this as an open tag sale, it should be fee based, and waived for seniors.

Mr. Bayne stated that, although he lives on a private road and along with 25% of the Town is not serviced by the program, feels that alternative programs should be explored. He stated that there should be a public hearing on the process as many residents may view this as one of the only free Town benefits. He added that he would like to see a study by DPW as to the uses of the man hours that are devoted to this program, and Mr. Steeger should have a plan of how to utilize the minimum 100 days that are dedicated to this trash pick up. He asked Post 53 and the Police Department if there were any safety issues associated with this program, and they reported that they could not identify any.

Mr. Bayne added that although he is not personally a big fan of the program, there needs to be clear alternatives other than free weekends at the Transfer Station, as that could result in commercial carters illegally dumping items in Darien.

Ms. Sullivan stated that she is in agreement with all the comments made and that it looks terrible especially when people are trying to sell homes, as the build up creates an eye sore in the Town. She agrees with Mr. Bayne that she wants to hear from the public and agrees that the Swap Shop is a good alternative.

Mr. Bayne added that homeowners who live on private roads tend to drop off items onto public road areas and there needs to be a policy to controlling this, especially along the Weed Beach areas. Ms. Stevenson added that perhaps that an alternate service should be year round drop off with resident permits at the Transfer Station rather than concentrated in a two-week period.

Mr. Campbell stated he would have DPW look at other town programs and Transfer Station regulations, and to come up with an alternative program.

b) Discuss and Take Action on Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule for 2011

Mr. Kilduff presented a proposed schedule of meetings for 2011, and Mr. Bayne stated that there were two dates that were conflicts, March 14 and August 8, where he could not attend meetings.

**** MS. SULLIVAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2011**

**** MS. STEVENSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOUR VOTES IN FAVOR, NONE OPPOSED AND ONE ABSTENTION (BAYNE)**

c) Discuss and Take Action on Outstanding Service Award

Mr. Nielsen stated that after the March storm the Department of Public Works was selected as recipient of the outstanding service award for their tireless efforts in cleaning up the trees and debris in the Town. Ms. Stevenson stated that she wanted to recognize all the nominations for their outstanding service, and concurs with Mr. Nielsen that DPW is being acknowledged as the award recipient. Ms. Sullivan added that the storm affected many people for a few weeks, but the efforts of the DPW were done over months, and the recognition is well deserved. Mr. Bayne stated that he was all for the DPW.

Mr. Campbell stated that there was no motion or vote necessary as the votes were done on an individual basis.

d) Transfers

Public Works Department

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer of appropriations is approved for referral to the Board of Finance:

From:			To:		
Acct. No.	Account	Amount	Acct. No.	Account	Amount
10402144-81001	Full Time Salary	\$22,000	10402144-81003	Seasonal & Temporary	\$22,000
TOTAL		\$22,000	TOTAL		\$22,000

Ms. Sullivan asked if that was enough to cover the gap in the salary budget with a number of full time positions open, due to injuries and grievances, and Mr. Kilduff stated that it was enough, as other amounts were covered by Workers' Compensation.

**** MS. STEVENSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR REFERRAL TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE:**

**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer of appropriations is approved for referral to the Board of Finance:

From:			To:		
Acct. No.	Account	Amount	Acct. No.	Account	Amount
10102011-82002	Conf. & Meetings	\$367	10101011-82034	Software Maint	\$367
TOTAL		\$367	TOTAL		\$367

**** MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR REFERRAL TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE:**

**** MS. STEVENSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Probate Court

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer of appropriations is approved for referral to the Board of Finance:

From:			To:		
Acct. No.	Account	Amount	Acct. No.	Account	Amount
10704000-86600	Contingency	\$1,434	10119011-82007	Prof. Services	\$1,434
TOTAL			TOTAL		

Mr. Nielsen asked if there was enough room for temporary storage, and Mr. Campbell replied that with the merger of courts, there was no longer a need for a walk-in safe now that everything will be electronic, so this was for the digitizing of records.

Mr. Bayne asked why the transfer was coming in now rather than during the budget cycle, and Mr. Campbell replied that it is required by the state and all towns are to be in compliance.

**** MS. STEVENSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR REFERRAL TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE:**
**** MR. NIELSEN MS. STEVENSON SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. AGENDA REVIEW

Mr. Bayne requested the Hoyt Street sidewalk issue to be added to the agenda, and First Selectman Campbell stated that it will be on next month, as there is still missing information from the DOT, and he is waiting for a reply from New Canaan.

First Selectman Campbell stated that there were no additional items to add to the agenda.

7. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Consider and take action on the following appointments:

- a) Dot Kelly to the Police Department Building Committee.
- b) Rocco Genovese to the Police Department Building Committee.

**** MR. BAYNE MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE ABOVE APPOINTMENTS OF DOT KELLY AND ROCCO GENOVESE TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING COMMITTEE.**
**** MS. SULLIVAN SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Regular Meeting of October 4, 2010

Mr. Nielsen requested on page 2, last paragraph add YMCA before swim team, and to delete the word time to call it a "Pool Meeting"; and on page 5, paragraph 2, to change "from the" to "for a" building committee...

**** MS. STEVENSON MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 4, 2010 MEETING AS AMENDED WITH CORRECTIONS NOTED ABOVE.**
**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

9. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

October 19, 2010 Board of Finance Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

October 20, 2010 Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

October 26, 2010 Board of Education Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

October 26, 2010 Planning & Zoning Commission General Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

November 1, 2010: Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

10. OTHER BUSINESS (Any items added to the agenda require a two-thirds vote.)

There was no Other Business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. STEVENSON MOTIONED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MS. SULLIVAN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Knox
Telesco Secretarial Services